



THE HEALTH OF CHORLEY

1972

THE HEALTH OF CHORLEY


FOR 1972

BEING THE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE

BOROUGH OF CHORLEY



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BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1972

The Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor D.E.R. Seabrook, J.P.

Alderman	W. BLEASDALE	Alderman	G.R. RIGBY, J.P.
"	W. LOWE	"	I. SELLERS, J.P.
"	Mrs. C. MONKS, O.B.E., J.P., M.P.	"	T.C. SHORROCK
"	W. RAWCLIFFE, J.P.	"	W. WILCOCK, J.P.
Councillor	S.G. ASHTON	Councillor	W. GOODIER
"	Mrs. M.L. BEECHEY C.C.	"	F. HADDON
"	Mrs. M.M. BLACKBURN	"	A. HEALD, T.D.
"	Mrs. M.M. BLEASDALE	"	J.W. HOLME
"	H. CLARKE	"	C. McKENNA
"	W. CORCORAN	"	P. KEANE
"	H.V. DAVIES	"	H.A. PARKINSON
"	D. DUNN C.C.	"	M. PEARSON
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"	F. FIELD	"	K.E. SANDHAM
"	A. GEE	"	M.A. THOMPSON
"	J. GLYNN		

Chairman of the Health Committee:

Alderman G.R. RIGBY, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee:

Councillor T.C. SHORROCK.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

J. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.

Divisional Medical Officer to the Health Division No. 4, Lancashire County Council, also Medical Officer of Health to the Urban District Councils of Adlington, Fulwood, Leyland, Longridge, Walton-le-Dale and Withnell, and to the Rural District Councils of Chorley and Preston.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

Also Senior Assistant Medical Officer, Health Division 4.

L.M. MAYER-JONES, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

J.G. KELLY, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.M. (a) (b) (c)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

K.H. BAILEY, D.M.A., M.A.P.H.I. (a) (b)
(From February 1972)

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

F. MYERS, M.A.P.H.I.

W.J. THORNTON, M.A.P.H.I. (d) (Resigned January 1972)

I.L. PARR, M.A.P.H.I.

R.F. BINKS, M.A.P.H.I. (d) (From April 1972)

- (a) Also holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate as a Meat and Other Foods Inspector.
- (b) Also holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate as a Smoke Inspector.
- (c) Also holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.
- (d) Holds the Diploma of Public Health Inspectors' Examination Board.

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

D.M. WORTHINGTON.

Clerical Staff:

B. HIRST,

MRS. D. PROCTER. MISS K. GARDINER.

General Foreman:

A. PRETTY.

PART 1

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND VITAL STATISTICS.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough for the year ended 31st December 1972.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population of the Borough at the middle of 1972 was 31,640 which is an increase of 170 on the estimate for mid 1971. The preliminary report of the 1971 Census gives the population of the Borough as 31,610. The number of live births assignable to the Borough was 491 of which 239 were males and 252 females and of the total 38 (a decrease of 2 on the previous year) were illegitimate. The number of live births in the previous year was 549 so that there were 58 fewer births in the year 1972. The crude birth rate for the year 1972 was 15.5 (adjusted 16.6) per 1,000 estimated population whilst the birth rates for England and Wales and the County of Lancaster were 14.8 and 15.5 (adjusted 15.6) respectively. The ratio of the Borough's adjusted birth rate to the national rate was 1.12.

The number of deaths assigned to the Borough for the year 1972 was 486 and is 67 more than in the previous year. The crude death rate for the Borough was 15.4 (adjusted 14.5) per 1,000 estimated population. The death rates for the Country as a whole and for Lancashire were 12.1 and 12.07 (adjusted 13.2) respectively.

The Registrar General provides a table giving the causes of death in age groups and this is reproduced in the Report. From this it will be seen that 221 of the 486 deaths occurred in persons 75 years of age or over and a further 150 were between 65 and 74 years of age. Those two groups together accounted for 371 or 76 per cent of the total of 486 deaths in the Borough during the past year.

In regard to causes of death the number who died from malignant diseases (including leukaemia) decreased by 24 from 97 to 73, with cancer of the lung deaths 11 compared with 25 in 1971. This gives a death rate for cancer in the Borough of 2.30 per 1,000 population against a national figure of 2.43. The comparable figures for lung cancer are 0.34 and 0.65. The Royal College of Physicians in its Report in 1971 drew attention to evidence that smoking and in particular cigarette smoking is even more damaging to health than was previously thought to be the case.

It can be calculated from the figures given in the report that in the age group 0 - 64, 4 of the 5 lung cancer deaths, 3 of the 4 Bronchitis deaths and 7 of the 26 deaths from ischaemic heart disease were due to smoking. This means that about 14 people died prematurely from smoking in Chorley in 1972, i.e. twice as many as died as a result of motor vehicle, home and industrial accidents. These deaths are avoidable.

Deaths from heart diseases numbered 179 an increase of 50 compared with 1971; those from ischaemic heart disease (coronary disease) increasing from 106 to 147. Deaths from cerebro-vascular disease (strokes) rose from 54 to 73 whilst those from pneumonia, bronchitis and emphysema showed a rise of 12 from 40 to 52. Motor vehicle accidents caused 5 fatalities in 1972 compared with 8 in the year 1971. 4 persons in the Borough committed suicide, 1 less than in 1971. Such deaths are a sad reflection on society.

The number of infants who died in 1972 before reaching one year of age was 13 compared with 12 in the previous year. This gives an Infantile Mortality Rate for the Borough of 26 per 1,000 live births compared with the corresponding rates for the Country as a whole and Lancashire of 17 and 17.7. This increase in the number of infant deaths is disappointing but not surprising as it was considered probable that the exceptionally low rates of recent years would be subject to occasional set-backs. It is again pleasing to report that there were no deaths attributable to child birth or abortion, in fact there have been no such deaths since 1958.

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year was 300 including 3 cases of tuberculosis compared with 120 including 3 cases of tuberculosis in 1971. In the case of measles the figures were 35 in 1971 and 265 in 1972, and for infective jaundice 35 and 6. The increase in notifications of measles is disturbing even though the figures are lower than in past decades. It is an indication that an insufficient proportion of children have been vaccinated against measles to completely eradicate the disease.

Despite the recent importations of smallpox into this country, the advice that the Department of Health and Social Security gave in 1971 that routine vaccination of infants should cease, still stands. All that is needed is for the Public Health Authorities to throw a ring of vaccinated people around each case as it occurs to prevent the spread of the disease in the community. There is no need for mass vaccination of a whole community when a case occurs in a locality. The diagnosis of smallpox can be made more difficult if the patient has had vaccination in the past, as quite frequently the protection has waned, but the rash is modified by the previous vaccination.

There was an outbreak of smallpox in Yugoslavia in the summer, and two Chorley residents were kept under surveillance after returning from holiday there. However they did not contract the disease. Vaccination continues to be recommended for travellers to and from Countries where smallpox is endemic or where eradication programmes are in progress and for health service staff who may come into contact with patients.

There must however, be no relaxation in regard to seeking the advantage of protection provided by immunisation and vaccination against other infectious diseases such as diphtheria, poliomyelitis, tetanus, whooping cough, measles and german measles. Vaccination against german measles became available in 1970 and is offered to girls between the ages of 11 and 14 years of age.

Health Departments have always had important duties to perform in promoting healthier environmental conditions. Such matters as supervision of food and water supplies, housing, clean air, refuse collection and disposal and noise abatement all requires constant supervision. Details will be found in Mr. Kelly's section of the report. On the subject of Clean Air a Smoke Control Programme was approved by this Council and the Department of the Environment during the year but sadly the finance needed to start the programme was not approved by the Capital Allocations Committee for Lancashire.

Housing conditions in the Borough continue to improve as a result of the repair and clearance of unfit dwellings and the erection of new ones. 4 small clearance areas involving 47 houses were officially represented and a further 14 individual houses were dealt with as unfit for human habitation. A total of 227 new dwellings were completed during the year comprising 15 by the Council and 212 by private enterprise. The Council now has two schemes of flatlets for the elderly, Cotswold House and Douglas House, each comprising 24 flatlets both being under the kindly supervision of residential wardens. In addition eight bungalows are connected by a bell system to Douglas House. The value of such housing schemes for the elderly can not be over estimated.

The Astley area of the Borough seems likely to be one of the first to be developed by the Central Lancashire Development Corporation and will provide about 1,000 houses together with associated schools and amenities.

Food Hygiene in the various food premises in the Borough, meat inspection in the Council's Public Abattoir and milk sampling all continued to receive careful attention during the year. In regard to milk sampling particular attention is paid to sampling for brucella infection which if present in milk can cause the disease known as undulant fever in man.

Two such positive samples were obtained during the year and appropriate action taken. Heat treatment renders the milk safe for consumption. The ultimate aim is, of course, the eradication of the disease from dairy herds and the Government's scheme towards this end is making progress.

Work on the extension to the School Clinic in Collison Avenue to form a Health Centre has continued and the Centre was opened early in 1973.

It seems likely that the impending re-organisation of both Local Government and the National Health Service will have taken place before another Annual Report can be presented. One result of these changes will be that Medical Officers will cease to be on the staff of Local Authorities. As the National Health Service Re-organisation Bill has not yet become law the exact structure of the National Health Service is not clear but medical advice will still be available to local authorities through the agency of the Area Health Board. Personally I shall be very sorry indeed to sever the close and happy relations which I have had for many years with both Council Members and staff.

My sincere thanks are again due to Mr. Kelly and the staff of the Health Department for their willing assistance and co-operation at all times. I am also, grateful to other officers and staff of the Council for their readiness to help whenever the need arises.

I must also express my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their continued support and encouragement.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. Walker,

Medical Officer of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Borough of Chorley is a compact industrial Lancashire town covering nearly 4,292 acres, of which about 680 acres were added in 1934, from the surrounding rural area, including the Duxbury Estate (650 acres) and part of the parishes of Euxton and Heath Charnock. The Borough has been included in the proposals for the New City of Central Lancashire. On 1st April 1974 it will become part of the new Chorley District Council in Lancashire.

The town is situated approximately at the centre of a triangle formed by the County Boroughs of Preston, Wigan and Bolton, and is placed on elevated ground (average about 300 feet) at the approaches to the Pennine Range, which rises sharply to the East, the sea being located approximately 10 miles to the West. The subsoil is mainly clay with outcrops of sand and gravel.

The majority of the houses in the centre of the town are of the terraced type. There are several municipal housing estates, and much new private housing development has taken place in recent years. The town is well provided with several small green recreation grounds, and possesses in Astley Park, near the centre of the town, a large natural parkland of much beauty, comprising nearly 100 acres.

The principle industries are cotton weaving, spinning and bleaching, motor works, manufacture of floor coverings, laundries and the assembly of telecommunication equipment and brewery distribution depot. A large proportion of female labour is normally employed.

VITAL STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1971 - 1972.

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Population (estimated mid 1972)	31,470	31,640
Number of Deaths (corrected)	419	486
Death rate (per 1,000 population)	13.3	15.4
Live Births	549	491
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	17.4	15.5
Still-Births	9	10
Still-Births (per 1,000 live and still births) ...	16	20
Total live and still births	558	501
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	12	13
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births total	22	26
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births		
legitimate	18	24
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births		
illegitimate	75	53
Neo-Natal Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live		
births (first-four weeks)	13	14
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live		
births (under one week)	9	10
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still-births and deaths		
under 1 week combined per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	25	30
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	7	7.7
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	0	0
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still		
births	0	0
Number of deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	0
Death Rate per 1,000 population from Respiratory		
Tuberculosis	0.03	0
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	1	0
Death rate per 1,000 population from all forms of		
Tuberculosis	0.03	0
The Borough covers an area of 4,292 acres		
Population Census, 1961	32,262	
Population Census, 1971	31,609	
No. of inhabited houses (Rate Books)	11,475	11,685
Rateable Value of the Borough	£1,082,204	£1,130,988
Product of Penny rate	£4,267	£10,750
	(£10,241)	

CAUSE OF DEATH		Total All Ages	Under 4 wks.	4 wks. and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS								
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over
B46 (8) Other Diseases of Digestive System	M F	1 4	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	- 1	- 2	
B38 Nephritis and Nephrosis	M F	- 2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- 1	
B46 (9) Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M F	- 3	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 2	- -	
B46 (11) Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	
B42 Congenital Anomalies	M F	2 2	1 -	- 1	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	
B43 Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc.	M F	1 1	1 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	
B44 Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	M F	1 2	1 2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	
B45 Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	M F	- 2	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	
BE47 Motor Vehicle Accidents	M F	3 2	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	1 -	- -	1 -	1 -	- 1	
BE48 All Other Accidents	M F	4 12	- -	1 1	- 1	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- 1	2 9	
BE49 Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	M F	3 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	1 1	1 1	- -	- -	- -	
BE50 All Other External Causes	M F	2 -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	
Total All Causes	M F	207 279	3 4	1 5	- 2	- 1	2 -	3 -	1 3	14 13	37 26	75 75 71 150	

TABLE 1

	Live Births		Deaths (All Causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	No. of Births	Rate* per 1,000 Pop'n (crude)	No. of Deaths	Rate* per 1,000 Pop'n (crude)	No. of Still- Births	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	Total		Neo-Natal	
									No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
Year 1972	491	15.5	486	15.4	10	20.0	Nil	Nil	13	26.0	7	14.0
1971	549	17.4	419	13.3	9	16.0	Nil	Nil	12	22.0	7	12.0
1970	491	16.0	428	13.9	12	24.0	Nil	Nil	8	16.0	6	12.0
1969	466	15.0	484	15.6	6	13.0	Nil	Nil	5	11.0	3	6.0
1968	516	16.6	410	13.2	9	17.0	Nil	Nil	9	17.0	6	12.0
1967	559	17.9	444	14.2	5	9.0	Nil	Nil	11	20.0	7	13.0
AVG. 5 years 1967-1971	516	16.6	437	14.0	8	15.8	Nil	Nil	9	17.2	6	11.0
*Adjusted Live Births Rate (Comparability Factor 1.07) = 16.6 per 1,000 Death Rate (Comparability Factor 0.94) = 14.5 per 1,000												

TABLE 11
Infant Mortality Rates

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales	Lancashire
1967	20.0	18.3	20.9
1968	17.0	18.3	19.4
1969	11.0	18.0	19.0
1970	16.0	18.0	19.8
1971	22.0	18.0	17.7
1972	26.0	17.0	18.1

TABLE 111
Birth Rates (Crude)

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales	Lancashire
1967	17.9	17.2	17.55
1968	16.6	16.9	17.32
1969	15.0	16.3	16.9
1970	16.0	16.0	16.9
1971	17.4	16.0	16.7
1972	15.5	14.8	15.5

TABLE 1V
Death Rates (Crude)

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales	Lancashire
1967	14.2	11.2	12.18
1968	13.2	11.9	12.28
1969	15.6	11.9	12.4
1970	13.9	11.7	12.5
1971	13.3	11.6	12.07
1972	15.4	12.1	12.6

General Provisions of Health Services in the Borough
Hospital Accommodation

Infectious Diseases

The Deepdale Isolation Hospital, Preston, is the one to which patients are normally admitted, although in cases of emergency Isolation Hospitals further afield may be utilised.

General Hospital Facilities

For patients from Chorley there are the undermentioned hospitals, all of which are under the control of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board and administered locally by the Preston and Chorley Hospital Management Committee. These are:-

Preston Royal Infirmary
Sharoe Green Hospital, Fulwood
Chorley and District Hospital, Chorley
Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley
Lostock Hall Continuation Hospital
Longsands Continuation Hospital, Fulwood
Ribbleson Hospital, Preston
Heath Charnock Hospital, Chorley.

St. Joseph's Hospital, Mount Street, Preston, a voluntary hospital for medical and surgical cases, is also available but only for some geriatric accommodation under the National Health Service.

Veneral Diseases

Specialised clinics are held at the Preston Royal Infirmary. Advice and treatment are free and strictly confidential.

Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory under the directorship of Dr. L. Robertson is situated in Meadow Street, Preston, alongside the Preston Royal Infirmary. Bacteriological examinations of routine samples of milk, ice-cream and water were continued during the year, together with the biological examination of milk for the presence of tubercle bacilli and brucella organisms, also the examination of faecal specimens and suspected foods in cases of food poisoning and dysentery.

Chemical analyses are usually carried out by the County Analyst.

The Group Laboratory is also situated at Preston Royal Infirmary and provides a very comprehensive service.

Services Provided by the County Council

The following services are administered on behalf of the Lancashire County Council by Divisional Health Committee No. 4, Medical Officer, Dr. J. Walker, Joint Divisional Office, East Cliff, Preston, PR1 3JQ. Telephone Preston 54868. The local Medical Officer is Dr. J.K. Brown, School Clinic, Collison Avenue, Telephone Chorley 2709.

Ambulance Service

There are 4 ambulances and 4 dual purpose cars stationed at the Ambulance Station in Preston Street, Chorley. The work done by this station covers the area of the Borough and surrounding districts. All these vehicles are fitted with radio, and are in direct contact with the County Ambulance Headquarters at Broughton.

Midwifery Service

There are two domiciliary Midwives serving Chorley who attend expectant mothers who are confined at home.

Home Nursing Service

There are established in various parts of Chorley 5 District Nursing Sisters, 5 District Nurses, 2 male District Charge Nurses and 2 Nursing Auxiliaries. The duties of these nurses include nursing care of patients in their own homes and they arrange for the loan of sing equipment in suitable cases.

Home Help Service

Home helps are employed by the County Social Services Department in Chorley and help a variety of cases including confinements, sickness, old age and infirmity and Tuberculosis cases. Night helps are also employed where needed.

Ante-Natal Clinics

Ante-Natal sessions take place at the Maternity Unit at Chorley and District Hospital.

Child Welfare Centres

Two Child Welfare Centres are open each week in the district, one at Eaves Lane, each Wednesday afternoon, one at Collison Avenue open on Tuesdays and Fridays. A Doctor and Health Visitor attend each clinic and advice is readily given in infant care and management and baby foods sold.

Babies are examined at regular intervals to assess the normality or otherwise of their development, so that handicaps and other problems may be recognised as early as possible. Early diagnosis allows remedial treatment to be carried out at the best time and, for those children who will remain handicapped an educational programme can be worked out with the educational authorities well before the child has reached school age.

Cervical Cytology

Facilities for the early ascertainment of cervical cancer are available for mature women, by appointment, at the Health Centre, Collison Avenue.

Vaccination and Immunisation

Vaccination and Immunisation of children against Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus and Measles are available free of charge at County Council Clinics as is vaccination against Rubella (German Measles) for girls between 11 and 14 years of age.

School Medical Services

Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at all the schools and clinic sessions are held at Collison Avenue, Chorley, for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care, speech therapy, orthopaedic and ophthalmic conditions. The County Council make special provisions for residential schooling for various categories of handicapped children such as the blind, partially sighted, deaf and dumb, epileptics, delicate and backward.

Convalescent Care

In suitable cases arrangements are made for the admission of patients to convalescent homes, through the Social Services Department.

Welfare Services

Residential homes are provided to accommodate elderly and infirm persons who have no longer anyone to adequately care for them. One such home is Coniston House, Tootell Street, Chorley. A new home, Healey View in Botany Brow accommodating 52 elderly persons was opened in 1971. Handicapped persons are also assisted.

Short term care for elderly people was available during the year, mainly to give a respite for persons caring for elderly relatives at home, or to allow them to take a holiday.

These services are available through the Social Services Department.

Chiropody Service

Chiropody sessions were held at the Health Centre, Collison Avenue, during the year for persons of pensionable age, expectant mothers, and registered handicapped persons. In addition a domiciliary service is available for those unable to attend clinics.

Family Planning

A Family Planning Clinic is in operation at the Health Centre, Collison Avenue on Tuesday evenings and Thursday afternoons. It is staffed by the Family Planning Association.

Mental Health Service

Social Workers serving the area are available to give advice. There is a Training Centre and Hostel for mentally sub-normal adults in Weldbank Lane, Chorley. A Youth Club for sub-normal children is held each Friday evening at Newtrees, Stump Lane, Chorley.

Health Centre Provision

Plans have been prepared for extensions to the School Clinic, Collison Avenue to provide a Health Centre for a number of General Medical Practitioners in the Borough. It is intended that work on this project will commence in 1972 and be completed in 1973. The Centre was in fact opened on 9th April 1973.

National Assistance Act 1948 (Sec. 47)

National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951

No. of applications made during the year None

No. orders made None

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The statutory basis of notification and prevention of infectious disease was changed on the 1st October, 1968, by the introduction of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968. This Act amended the list of notifiable diseases and certain relevant sections of earlier Acts. Under this Act, the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968 were made and became operative also on 1st October.

The number of notifications received during the year was 300 including 3 cases of tuberculosis as compared with 119 including 3 cases of tuberculosis in 1971.

Measles

The number of cases of measles notified was 265 as compared with 35 in the previous year. Supplies of vaccine are ample and parents are urged to take advantage of the protection offered for children who have not had measles.

Infective Jaundice

This disease was made notifiable in 1968 under the Public Health (Infective Jaundice) Regulations and during the year under review 6 cases were notified as compared with 32 in 1971.

The diseases affected both adults and children and tended to affect adults more severely than children. The following tables show the age incidence and distribution of cases throughout the Wards in the Borough.

Age Group	-5	5+	10+	15+	20+	30+	40+	50+	60+
No. Cases	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-

Ward	North	South	East	West
No. Cases	1	1	1	3

Infective Jaundice is a virus infection and its spread is very difficult to control. It was made notifiable in order to obtain more precise information concerning the incidence and the circumstances in which the various forms of the disease are spread. Such information, it is hoped will in due course, lead to useful measures of control.

Scarlet Fever

23 cases were notified during 1972 as against 25 in the previous year. The disease continued, as in recent years to be of a mild nature.

Whooping Cough

No cases of whooping cough were notified during the year under review. 24 cases were notified in 1971.

Food Poisoning and Dysentery

There were no major outbreaks of these diseases during the year.

Only one case of suspected food poisoning was notified during the year but was found negative as far as food poisoning organisms were concerned. Four cases of other illness were reported three of which were subsequently found to be due to E. Coli. No infective organisms were found in the other cases.

Four cases of dysentery were notified or otherwise ascertained.

Prevalence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases (except T.B.)

1972 and 1971

1972

	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total Cases
Measles	6	123	130	6	265
Scarlet Fever	7	2	5	9	23
Whooping Cough ...	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning ...	-	-	-	1	1
Dysentery	-	-	1	1	2
Infective Jaundice ...	1	2	3	-	6

1971

	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total Cases
Measles	15	18	1	1	35
Scarlet Fever ...	5	9	5	6	25
Whooping Cough ...	8	4	12	-	24
Food Poisoning ...	-	-	1	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice ...	2	19	10	1	32

Tuberculosis
New Cases and Mortality during 1972

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Year								
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Age Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-
Totals	2		1		-		1	
1971 Totals	2		1		1		-	
1970 Totals	6		1		-		-	

No. of cases on the register at the end of the year were:-

Respiratory 46

Non-Respiratory 18

Removed from Register 3

Mass Radiography

No public surveys were carried out during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER SUPPLIES

Of the 11,713 dwellings in the Borough at the end of the year only 7, being outlying farms and cottages, were on private supplies.

Public Supply

The town is supplied with water by the Preston and District Water Board from the Liverpool Corporation Reservoirs at Rivington, the Chorley supply coming from the filter beds at 'The Nab'. The water is fairly soft upland surface water which is subjected to soda ash treatment and chlorination prior to distribution.

During the year water supplies were extended to new properties in Canterbury Street, Higher Red Bank, Copperwood, Cowling Road Industrial Estate and two Schools e.g. St. Michael's and St. Albans, the latter for fire control purposes.

Periodical bacteriological analysis are carried out by Preston and District Water Board who forward copies of the reports to the Public Health Department. I am pleased to report that the results are invariably satisfactory.

In addition the Department took 6 samples for bacteriological examination all of which were satisfactory and 1 sample for chemical analysis which was satisfactory.

A typical result of a chemical sample is as follows:-

Source of Sample: Chorley Treated Water ex dwellinghouse.

(a) Physical Examination of Water: Slightly coloured.

(b) Chemical Examination:

pH reaction 8.4

Results expressed in parts per million:

Total Solids in Solution	95
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 15 mins	0.35
" " " " " " " " in 3 hrs.	0.75
Amonia	0.02
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.12
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.04
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil
Combined Chlorine	13
Free Chlorine	0.02
Total Hardness (as Ca CO ₃)	48
Carbonate Hardness (as Ca CO ₃)	24

Calcium Hardness (as Ca CO ₃)	34
Lead	Nil
Copper	Nil
Zinc	Nil
Total Iron	0.11
Apparent Colour - Hazen Units	Nil
Flouride (F)	0.038
Free Chloride	0.02

The amount of flouride in the water is typical of amounts occurring naturally in waters in this district and is appreciably less than the one part per million which has been suggested as an added amount for the control of dental caries in children.

Complaints are received from time to time concerning the quantity and quality of the water supply and all these are investigated. I am pleased to report the full co-operation of the Water Undertaking in these matters. None of the quality complaints were serious and all satisfactorily dealt with. As far as quantity is concerned the problems that do arise are due principally to worn out, damaged or partially occluded service or distribution pipes usually serving a number of houses and the Department then undertakes action under the Public Health Acts, to remedy the situation. This is invariably done informally by agreement with the property owners.

It is interesting to note that the average daily consumption of water per head of population at 55.96 gallons increased only slightly over 53.3 in 1971. This figure includes supplies used for industrial and commercial purposes. There would I suggest be little change in the overall quantity used in these two years.

Private Supplies

There are seven dwellinghouses including four farms on private supplies derived from shallow wells or springs. 1 sample was taken from these sources and submitted for bacteriological examination, and was satisfactory. It is not practicable unfortunately to provide these dwellings with a mains water supply at the present time.

2. Swimming Baths

There is only one swimming bath operative in the town and this is situated in the Town Centre and is owned and operated by the Corporation. The water used is from the public supply and it is subjected to filtration and chlorination in accordance with standard public health practice. A sauna bath is also available.

During the year regular sampling of the bath water for bacteriological examination was undertaken and all 21 samples proved generally satisfactory.

3. Astley Park Paddling Pool

This pool is available for use during the summer months and notwithstanding the careless action of individuals visiting the part and roaming animals, every effort is made by the Parks Department to maintain a clean pool by means of periodic thorough cleansing and chlorination.

4. Sewerage

With the exception of outlying farms and cottages and houses in Euxton Lane, Bolton Road, Wigan Lane and Carr Lane areas all properties are connected to the sewerage system. During the year under review 227 new houses were connected to the system.

Sewage Disposal is effected at Common Bank where the works were reconstructed in 1970. Sewage is received from Chorley, Euxton and the Royal Ordnance Factory via four sewers which discharge into a new collecting chamber from thence into two large diameter concrete pipes. It then passes through two screens (one under normal conditions), the screenings being deposited onto a conveyor belt for subsequent disposal. Grit is then removed by means of a Dorr Detritor from which the normal flow passes to two circular mechanically scraped sedimentation tanks which give a retention period of just above seven hours at normal dry weather flow. From the Sedimentation tanks the flow passes to the surface aeration plant which consists of two channel tanks each equipped with five high intensity Keesener Rotors. The flow then passes to the final settling tanks. Facilities are available for the use of existing percolating filters at the lower works if required as an alternative to the final settlement tanks, and throughout the plant storm water overflow arrangements are provided in the form of storm sewage tanks. Temporary sludge drying beds are provided but arrangements are being made to transport certain quantities of sludge to a disposal site outside the Borough.

5. Rivers and Streams

The pollution of waterways is an important aspect of the environmental scene, and the recent public outcry about the state of town and country should assist these concerned in the prevention of pollution. Complaints on these matters are referred to the Lancashire River Authority who are responsible for the administration of the appropriate legislation.

Whilst it is considered that some industrial effluents now finding their way into rivers and streams could well be passed into the town's sewerage system, the attendant problems relating to treatment methods and above all works capacity are of major importance and require much thought and forward planning if the effluent from the Sewage Works is to be acceptable to the River Authority.

PART 2

CLEAN AIR.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

HOUSING.

MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION (GENERAL).

by

J. G. KELLY, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.M.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to present my Annual Report to you for the year ending 31st December 1972.

There were inspectorial staff changes during the year in that Mr. W.J. Thornton, Additional Public Health Inspector resigned in January to take up a post at Devizes, Wiltshire and it was over two months before he was replaced by Mr. R.F. Binks from Manchester. Mr. K.H. Bailey from Northwich was appointed Deputy and took up his duties in February.

In the Housing field the clearance programme proceeded according to plan and towards the end of the year a General Improvement Area was given preliminary approval. As expected a significant increase in applications for improvement and standard grants occurred in 1972 due to the increased grants available by virtue of the Housing Act 1971.

As far as Clean Air was concerned, I was very pleased that the Council approved the Report for a Comprehensive Phased Programme for Smoke Control which was subsequently approved in principle by the Department of the Environment, but the pleasure was to some extent short lived in that the capital finance to commence the programme during the latter part of the year was not made available so the efforts had to be deferred for a further year.

The throughput in the Public Abattoir continued to be high being only marginally less than in 1971, but there is now doubt that due to increased expenditure the tolls will have to be revised shortly. It was still necessary to carry out regular overtime to ensure a 100% meat inspection service.

The Refuse Collection and Disposal services continued at a high level notwithstanding the greater demands made on the Department. However we were fortunate to record a low level of absence due to sickness and casual absence which made organisational management easier than it is usually. Credit is due particularly to Mr. A. Pretty for his ceaseless concern and determination to maintain a good service.

In the sphere of environmental health generally there was again particular attention given to food and drugs work, food hygiene, drainage, pests and a variety of other tasks, not to mention the increased work caused by the spread of Swine Vesicular Disease through many parts of the Country.

Staff changes certainly upset normal routines which resulted in problems of coverage to my usual satisfaction.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Dr. J. Walker, Medical Officer of Health, my Deputy and all the Staff and employees of the Department for their continued keenness and co-operation, my colleagues in other Departments for their kind assistance, the Chairman and Vice Chairman and Members of the Housing Committee and finally to the Chairman and Vice Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support and encouragement throughout the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

J.G. Kelly,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Summary of Public Health Inspectors' Visits and Inspections:

Building Plans	11
Clean Air (including observations)	199
Diseases of Animals	6
Drainage (Inspections and Tests)	352
Entertainment Places	2
Factories and Workplaces	32
Food Premises	710
Food Inspections:-	
Routine and Condemnations	126
Sampling - Food and Drugs	127
" Bacteriological	76
Public Abattoir (Days)	310
Housing:-	
Housing Acts - Repairs	9
Closing/Deml.	175
Slum Clearance	326
Overcrowding	-
Improvement Grants	471
Houses in Multiple Occupation	10
Rent Act	34
Public Health - Repairs	386
Vermin	6
Re-inspections	145
Infectious Diseases	143
Keeping of Animals	22
Miscellaneous	519
Nuisances	325
Pet Animals Act	3
Public Cleansing	270
Public Conveniences	24
Rodent Control	191
Schools	4
Shops Act	19
Swimming Baths	7
Tents, Caravans, Etc.	24
Water Supplies	35
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	130
Health Education	4
Interviews	284
Civic Amenities	136
Noise	101
Offensive Trades	14
Rivers and Streams	10
Hairdressers	3
Rag Flock Act	1

1. CLEAN AIR

(a) GENERAL

The legislation now covering the subject is contained in the Clean Air Acts, 1956 - 1968, and the Regulations made thereunder.

The legislation enforceable generally by a local authority is laid down by the Clean Air Acts 1956 - 1968 and can be summarised below:-

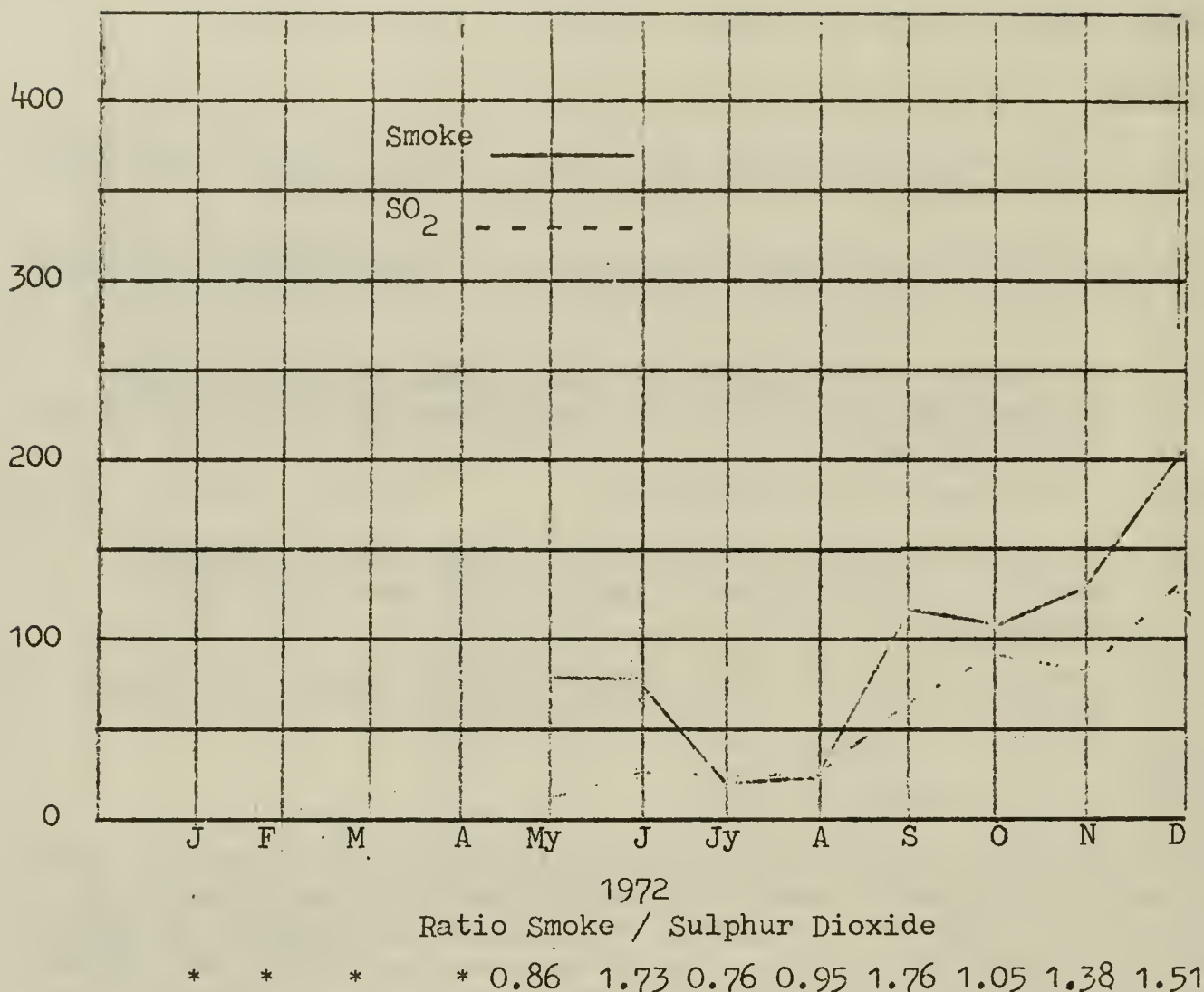
- (1) The control of emissions of smoke, grit, dust and fumes produced by industrial and trade processes, furnaces and on such premises;
- (2) The control of new furnaces;
- (3) The discretionary declaration of Smoke Control Areas to control domestic smoke in addition to smoke from other furnaces;
- (4) The power to control the height of new chimneys by formal means.

(b) INVESTIGATION OF AIR POLLUTION

The Department continues to participate in the investigation of Air Pollution on a Nationwide basis in co-operation with the Ministry of Technology by an apparatus measuring the average daily amount of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide in the air. It is interesting to note that the figures for 1972 are higher than those for last year and the ratio of Smoke to Sulphur Dioxide shows little change. Whilst these differences can be brought about partly by changes in weather conditions, I consider that such a change is undesirable and indicates that domestic smoke control is vital. It is still evident that smoke concentration tends to vary in proportion to population for industrial emissions continue to improve. See table on next page.

(c) INDUSTRIAL

Attention continued to be given to the industrial aspects of Clean Air during the year and the position is generally good. Some fourteen smoke observations were made of which eight proved satisfactory. It is fair to state however, that problems do arise from time to time from industrial and other premises and every effort is made to reach a satisfactory conclusion. One hundred and nineteen visits were made to industrial premises regarding fuel burning plant, emission of smoke, new installations and alterations and the erection of chimneys. I am pleased to report once again that management has in general been co-operative in this field, and to the extent that the department is notified in cases of breakdowns likely to result in unlawful smoke emissions.



(d) INSTALLATION OF NEW FURNACES

No applications for prior approval were received during the year but there were 2 notifications of intention to install new furnaces.

Fuel Used	Notifications
Coal.....	Nil
Gas (Towns).....	1 (1)
Oil.....	1 (2)

The number in brackets denotes the number of furnaces involved.

(e) NEW CHIMNEYS

The Clean Air Act 1968 introduced the principle of formal approval of chimney height under certain circumstances. These concern the rated input of fuel to a furnace and are (a) pulverised fuel in any quantity; (b) solid matter at a rate exceeding 100 lbs/hour and (c) liquid or gaseous fuels at a rate exceeding $1\frac{1}{4}$ million BTU/Hour.

* No results received due to pump maintainance.

Prescribed forms are to be used for the formal application and sufficient detailed information given to enable the authority to make a decision. These applications must be dealt with within 4 weeks.

To enable local authorities to judge the soundness of proposals concerning chimney heights the Ministry of Housing and Local Government have issued guidance notes.

Clean Air Act 1968, Sec. 6

No. applications received during year	1
No. approved	1
No. refused	Nil

(f) I am pleased to say that in August a Report on the Establishment of Smoke Control Areas in the Borough was presented to and approved by the Council. The Report set out a comprehensive phased programme of Smoke Control Areas, twelve in number, designed to cover the whole of the Borough over a period of 12 years. It was the intention to commence in the North (Hartwood Area) move southerly down the west side of the town taking in more central areas then from the south to return northwards via the Easterly side. Regretably however, the necessary capital finance to enable the first area to be commenced was not made available by the Capital Allocations Committee so the Scheme had to be abandoned for a year. It is earnestly hoped that it will be found practicable to commence the programme towards the end of 1973.

Chorley is an area of increasing growth and it is essential to ensure that the atmosphere does not deteriorate due to particulate matter emitted at low level. The same applies of course to the vast amount of residential development going on in the vicinity of the town where many of the residents must appreciate modern and efficient forms of heating most of which are already smokeless.

2. FOOD CONTROL

(a) Milk Supply

Since 1956 Chorley and the surrounding districts have comprised a Specified Area, so that the only milk retailed within the Borough is designated milk, that is Untreated, Pasteurised or Sterilised.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 came fully into force on the 1st October 1964, revoking the previous regulations. The principal change from the Council's view relates to the use of the new special designation "Untreated" for raw milk, instead of the previous designation "Tuberculin-Tested".

The following Licences were issued under these Regulations:-

Dealers (pre-packed) milk licences for untreated,
 pasteurised and sterilised milk 103
 Dealer (pasteuriser) licence -
 Dealer (steriliser) licence -
 44 visits were made to dairies and milk shops.
 Dealers' licences provide for more than one designation in
 many cases.

The Food and Drugs (Milk) Act 1970, now authorises the treatment of milk by the application of steam. This method of heat treatment hitherto prohibited because it involved the addition of water to milk, operates on the principle of heating the milk by direct contact with steam and the removal afterwards of excess water so that the original compositional standard is maintained.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

46 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, and the results are shown in the following tables:-

	No. of samples	RESULTS		
		Satis.	Unsat.	Void Samples
UNTREATED MILK				
(a) Methylene Blue Test	38	32	6	-
HEAT TREATED MILK				
(b) Methylene Blue Test	8	8	-	-
(c) Phosphatase Test		8	-	-
(d) Turbidity Test	-	-	-	-
(e) Colony Count Test	-	-	-	-

BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

Total number of Samples submitted - 79

Results	Positive	Negative	No Result
(a) Tuberculosis	-	5	-
(b) Brucellosis - Ring Test ...	2	77	-
(c) Brucellosis - Culture Test	2	-	-
(d) Brucellosis - Biological Test	-	5	-

The Ring Test for Brucellosis is essentially a screening test so it is the practice to subject ring test positive samples to culture in order to confirm the presence of the organisms. In all cases of confirmed brucellosis in milk samples the local authority in whose area the farm is situated is informed so that investigations can be made. The information is also passed to the producer.

Brucellosis - Sampling Scheme

Local arrangements continued to operate having regard to recommendations contained in the Ministry of Health Circular 17/66. Samples of milk from the producer-retailer situated in the Borough and samples from five producer retailers situated in adjoining areas who retail milk within the Borough boundary have been taken bi-monthly and examined for brucella organisms. This scheme was intended to widen the scope of the original system, with a view to preventing the sale of infected untreated milk. Milk found to be infected e.g. culture positive, must be subjected to heat treatment until the producer concerned has eliminated affected cows with the aid of their own veterinarians and the milk has satisfied a further series of tests.

Two samples of milk were found to be positive on culture test. Both originated from farms situated within the Rural District and the Authority was informed.

The Brucellosis (Area Eradication) (England and Wales) Order 1971

In November 1971, Lancashire was included in the North West England No. 1 Eradication Area. This implies that restrictions have been imposed on the movement of cattle into and within the area, the holding of markets, approval of cattle dealers premises, precautions against spread of the Disease, and the sale of reactors. The objective of course is the ultimate eradication of the Disease throughout the Country.

The compulsory eradication of brucellosis with the exercise of full compulsory powers started in the Eradication Areas of Great Britain in November 1972. Many reactors are slaughtered at the Public Abattoir.

Chemical Analysis

44 samples of milk were obtained for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act 1955, and submitted to the Public Analyst. One was found to be unsatisfactory due to 1.9% extraneous water.

(b) Ice Cream

There are 160 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. One of the premises is also registered for the manufacture of ice-cream, although within the meaning of the Food Standard (Ice Cream) Regulations 1959, the produce is in fact, a milk ice, the prescribed standard of composition for which being much lower than that of ice-cream.

21 samples were taken for subjection to the methylene blue reduction test and the results were generally satisfactory, the provisional grading used being by nature of a guide to hygienic practice only.

PROV. GRADE	Premises			
	1	11	111	1V
Soft Ice Cream	-	-	-	-
Other Ice Cream	10	3	1	7

(c) Food Hygiene

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970, came into force on 1st March, 1971.

The routine inspection of food premises continued throughout the year as far as staff changes would allow and 28 informal notices were served regarding contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations. Whilst it is satisfactory to report a continued improvement in the method of handling and storage of food in the great variety of premises in the town, much more has to be done about the insufficiency of storage space. Continued vigilance by the Public Health Inspectors is essential to maintain a high standard of food hygiene and no relaxation of effort can be acceptable.

Many retailers have for some time relied upon delivery men to replenish bread confectionery and meat products in their shops without realising in many cases that they alone are responsible for sales that take place. Problems have arisen concerning the staleness of these articles and extreme care is required to ensure that the method is not abused, resulting in the sale or exposure for sale of stale or even unfit food. The responsibility for the sale of unsound food in these cases is clearly that of the retailer, and considerable care is required to ensure proper stock rotation and replacement.

(d) General Markets and Cattle Market

The standard of food hygiene on the General Market and Cattle Market continues to remain high. This position must be maintained as the market generally has a high reputation in the area. All stall-holders selling open food sell from built-in stalls provided with all facilities in accordance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

(e) Food Premises

	No. Premises	Fitted to comply Sec. 16	Sec. 19	
			To which apply	Fitted to comply with
General Grocers and provision dealers	88	86	76	73
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game etc.)	9	9	4	4
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game, etc.)	1	1	1	1
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe etc.)	31	31	31	31
Bakers and/or confectioners	31	31	31	31
Fried fish shops	21	21	21	21
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc.	32	32	-	-
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering ests.	81	81	81	81
Others	-	-	-	-

Number of Food Premises and Hawkers Registered

Sec. 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955:-

Ice Cream Premises	160
Potted and preserved food premises	30

Sec. 14, Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951:-

Hawkers Premises	29
Hawkers	60

(f) Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Sampling:- The Corporation is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Borough and every effort is made to ensure the satisfactory performance of these duties which if properly done takes time and patience.

During the year 116 samples were taken from a range of foodstuffs for analysis by the Public Analyst and of these 103 were found to be genuine.

The following table indicates the variety sampled:-

<u>Food</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>No.</u>
Vegetable Soup Mix	1	Baking Powder	1
Ulster Fry	1	Salad Cream	1
Instant Powders	1	Yogurt	1
Sliced Tongue	1	Meat Mould	1
Smoked Ham Paste	1	Fish Cakes	1
Minestrone Soup	1	Salmon Paste	3
Sweet Whip	1	Pork Sausages	6
Alka Seltzer	1	Potted Brawn	2
Spam Spread	1	Potted Beef	4
Raspberry Jam	1	Instant Coffee	1
Pork Pie	1	Prime Chopped Beef	1
Throat Specific Mixture	1	Chicken Soup	1
Steakettes	1	Cough Linctus	1
Fresh Cream Trifle	1	Beef and Ham	1
Sunny Spread	1	Beef Sausages	3
Buttered Barm Cake	1	Apricot Jam	1
Mixed Pickles	1	Lemon Cheese	1
Rum	3	Piccalilli Sauce	1
Whisky	2	Beef Burgers	1
Vodka	1	Dried Instant Pineapple Juice	1
Cognac	1	Salami Ring	1
Sherry	1	Meat and Potato Pie	5

(Cont).....

(Cont).....

<u>Food</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>No.</u>
Gin	1	Limb Ease Tablets	1
Prawn Cocktail Dressing ...	1	Vegetable Juice	1
Stewed Steak in Gravy ...	1	Steak and Kidney Pie ...	1
Bernerva Compound Vitamin Tablets	1	Milks	45

Thirteen of these samples requires comment and advice was given to the manufacturer or retailer as appropriate. These samples were as follows:-

<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1	Pasteurised Milk	Freezing point indicates 0.6% extraneous water
1	Meat Mould	Low in meat content
3	Potted Beef	" " " "
3	Pork Sausage	" " " "
2	Meat and Potato Pie	" " " "
1	Sandersons Throat Specific Mixture	Labelling
1	Sunny Spread	"
1	Untreated Milk	Freezing point indicates 0.6% extraneous water.

(g) Complaints concerning food

Twenty complaints were received and thoroughly investigated during the year. This number continues to show awareness amongst members of the public and those responsible in schools and other establishments to the many possible dangers attached to staleness, mould, inefficiently cleansed containers and foreign bodies, in the form of insects or particulate matter such as dust or grit.

In one case it was necessary to recommend legal proceedings to be taken involving unfit meat pies. The case was awaiting Court. Proceedings at the end of the year.

ARTICLE	NATURE OF COMPLAINT	ACTION
Cheese	Foreign Body	Firm Concerned Interviewed
Meat and Potato Pie	" "	" " "
Cheese	Offensive Smell	No Action Taken
Leg of Mutton	Foreign Body	Firm Concerned Warned
Crumpets	Mouldy	" " "
Buttered Barm Cake	Not of the nature demanded	Found to be Genuine No Further Action
Processed Peas	Foreign Body	After result of analysis examination n.f. action.
Sliced Tongue	" "	Complainant informed of findings
Grapefruit Juice	Alleged to have caused ill effects	Nothing found but Firm Concerned Interviewed
Bottle of Milk	Foreign Body	Firm Concerned Warned.
Apple Pie	Mouldy	" " "
Pork Pie	Foreign Body	" " Interviewed
Packet of Raisins	" "	No Further Action
Cod Fillett	Offensive Smell	Firm Concerned Interviewed.
Loaf of Bread	Foreign Body	" " Warned
Cheese	" "	" " Interviewed
Loaf of Bread	" "	" " Warned
Leek Soup	" "	" " "
Meat Pie	" "	" " "
Meat Pie	" "	Legal Proceedings

(h) Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

- (i) No. of egg pasteurisation plants in district at end of year None
- (ii) No. of samples of liquid egg submitted to Alpha Amglaze test and their results None

(j) Public Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection

In the Borough of Chorley all slaughtering of animals for human consumption is carried out at the Council's Public Abattoir.

The throughput for the year showed only a marginal decrease on the 1971 figure but continued to be high demanding all out effort for management and supervision. There appears to be no reason to expect this level of output to decline in the near future.

The manual staff of one Abattoir Caretaker and three labourers was maintained during the year.

Works of repair and maintenance have been carried out during the year and further items are yet to be completed. It is essential however to realise that the premises are after all a food factory and as such demands a high standard of maintenance to ensure smooth running and compliance with the various regulations covering this type of premises.

I am again pleased to report that 100% meat inspection was maintained throughout the whole of the year, although regular overtime by Public Health Inspectors was necessary to ensure that the Meat Inspection Regulations and management requirements are satisfied. The importance of an efficient meat inspection service must not be under estimated particularly as a wide area is served by the premises.

Slaughter of Animals Act 1958

14 Slaughtermens licences were issued during the year.

The following table indicates the annual throughput at the Public Abattoir over the last six years and a comparison with the year 1961.

Animals Slaughtered 1967-1972

	1961	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Cattle	3,079	12,166	11,390	11,153	12,359	11,269	11,023
Calves	42	349	122	107	51	17	10
Sheep	10,845	25,631	23,207	20,794	24,440	24,089	24,058
Pigs	3,696	1,938	1,472	1,458	1,443	1,276	1,742
Total	17,662	40,084	36,191	33,512	38,293	36,651	36,833
* Equiv. Cattle Units	7,110	18,377	16,808	16,077	17,986	16,731	16,710
* Av. Equiv. C. Units. per week	137	353	323	309	346	322	321

* One Cattle Unit is equivalent to one unit of cattle, three calves, five sheep or two pigs.

Animals Slaughtered and Inspected

	Cattle Excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number Killed	5,386	5,637	10	24,058	1,742
Number Inspected	5,386	5,637	10	24,058	1,742
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis --- Whole Carcase Condemned	-	1	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	338	1,144	-	356	30
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	6.2%	20.3%	-	1.5%	1.7%
Tuberculosis only --- Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	T	-
Cysticercosis --- Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Carcase submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Disposal of Condemned Meat and Offal

Condemned Liver sold for pharmaceutical purposes is collected by an approved processor and the bulk of the income from this is repaid to the butchers concerned.

All other condemned meat and offal is stained green prior to being sold for processing of which there was a total of 81,012 lbs. disposed of during the year from the Abattoir.

(k) Inspection of Other Foods

<u>Type of Food</u>	<u>Qty. Condemned (lbs.)</u>
Ham (Canned)	481
Tongue (Canned)	24
Corned Beef (Canned)	36
Pork	21
Lamb	54
Sausage (Canned)	3
Poultry	3
Beef	184
Melons	778
Fish	128
Chicken (Canned)	56
Meat	124
Pork (Canned)	68
Normeat (Canned)	4
Jellied Veal (Canned)	6

Tins, packets of other food (including frozen foods) 1,403 in number.

(1) Poultry Inspection

(i)	No. of poultry processing premises within the district	1
(ii)	No. of visits to these premises	2
(iii)	Total No. of birds processed during the year	7,800
(iv)	Types of birds processed	1-2 year old hens & turkeys
(v)	Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption	Not Known
(vi)	Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption	Not Known
(vii)	Comments on poultry processing and inspection: The spotter system was employed. All the birds were purchased in a dead and eviscerated state.	

(m) Slaughter of Poultry Act 1967

No. on register - None.

3. HOUSING

(a) General

Of the total number of houses in the Borough just over one fifth are owned by the Corporation. Nearly two-thirds are of the terraced type and a quarter semi-detached. Almost 85% of the private houses are owner-occupied.

The Clearance programme confirmed in November 1971 continued satisfactorily although in the case of two Clearance Areas being dealt with by way of compulsory purchase, Public Inquiries are to be held next year.

In the tables that follow I wish to stress that the figures given for displaced persons do not indicate the total number of persons re-housed by the Council as a Housing Authority. They refer only to houses in respect of which action has been taken under the Housing Act 1957, Parts II and III.

During the year 9 individual houses were represented as unfit for human habitation under the Housing Act, 1957 and 47 houses were officially represented in the following clearance areas:

Borough of Chorley	(Brook Street)	Clearance Area 1972	(19 houses)
"	"	" (Brunswick Street)	Clearance Area 1972 (17 houses)
"	"	" (Water Street)	Clearance Area 1972 (6 houses)
"	"	" (Morrison Street)	Clearance Area 1972 (5 houses)

The total number of houses erected or otherwise acquired by the Council up to the end of 1972 was 2,458.

(b) Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses Demolished

Clearance Areas

	Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
Houses Unfit for Human Habitation	18	29
Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43(2)	-	-

Not in Clearance Areas

As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17, Housing Act 1957	3	12
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit	13	

(c) Unfit Houses Closed

	No. Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
Under Section 16 Housing Act 1957.	9	17
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act 1957	-	-

(d) No. of new houses erected during the year

(1) By the Local Authority	15 houses	15
(2) By other bodies or persons		212

(e) Particulars of housing scheme

- (i) In hand at end of the year.
- ... None - Preliminary work only.

(f) Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the year

(1) (a)	Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for house defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	276
(b)	No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purposes	1,411
(c)	No. of dwelling-houses in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	208
(2)	Total No. of dwelling-houses existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which:-	
(a)	Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have been made (at any time)	107
(b)	Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have not yet been made(approx.)	278

(g) Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notice

No. of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	191
--	-----

(h) Actions under Statutory Powers during the year

A. Proceedings under Sections 9 and 16 of the Housing Act 1957

(1)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repair	-
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice	
(a)	By Owners	-
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	-

B. Proceedings under the Public Health Act

(1)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	20
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied	
(a)	By Owners	32
(b)	By Local Authority	-

C. Proceedings under Sec. 16, 17 and 35 of the Housing Act 1957

- | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| (1) | No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| (2) | No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 34 |
| (3) | No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings have been received and accepted | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |

D. Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act

- | | | | | |
|-----|--|-----|-----|---|
| (1) | No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | ... | ... | - |
| (2) | No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... | ... | - |

(i) Housing Act 1969-71

The Improvement of Houses

The Housing Act 1969 streamlined the legislation concerning the improvement of houses and dealt with it in three particular categories namely 'Improvement Grants', 'Standard Grants' and 'Special Grants'. It also produced a further principle that of 'General Improvement Areas' where a consolidated effort could be made to improve houses, the environment or both on a voluntary basis.

This was followed by the Housing Act 1971 which determined certain areas of the country as Development and Intermediate areas which includes this Borough, where the percentage grant for improvement were increased from 50% to 75% for a specific period later extended to 23rd June 1974. As I mentioned in my preamble this decision has given greater impetus to the desire to carry out improvements and in the Borough the number of discretionary grant applications increased fourfold and standard grant applications doubled.

Having regard to the number of unimproved houses in the town which is approximately 2,500 such progress is to be welcomed and further the decision to make the first General Improvement Area comprising about 236 houses of which 154 are local authority pre-war properties is very satisfactory as a pilot scheme. The multi-disciplinary nature of such a scheme must however be appreciated.

A number of areas in Chorley would benefit from G.I.A. procedure and provide modernised houses in reasonable surroundings at a moderate cost to the owners and the Council.

A summary of action taken during the year under the Housing Act 1969 is as follows:-

Improvement Grants Etc:-

Action During Year:-	Private Bodies or Individuals		Local Authority	
	No. of Schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other Buildings	No. of Schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other Bldgs. affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to Local Authority	56	56	-	-
(b) Approved by Local Authority	39	39	-	-
(c) Submitted by Local Authority to Ministry	-	-	2	2
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	-	-	-	-
(e) Work completed	-	18	-	-
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (a) above	-	-	-	-

Standard Grants:-

(a) Application submitted to Local Authority	146
(b) Applications approved by Local Authority	127
(c) Work completed	69

(j) Rent Act 1957:-

No. of applications for certificate of disrepair	None
Certificates of disrepair issued	None
Certificates of disrepair cancelled	None
Undertakings given	None

(k) Housing Act 1969, Part III

No. of applications for qualification certificates	...	6
No. qualification certificates issued	5
No. qualification certificates refused	2
No. applications not yet determined	3
No. applications for provisional qualification certificates	None
No. provisional qualification certificates issued	...	None
No. provisional qualification certificates refused	...	None

(l) Houses in Multiple Occupation

10 visits were made to dwellings used for multiple occupation during the year and all of these were inspected for the purposes of the Housing Act, 1961. Persons intending to purchase houses for conversion to Multiple Occupation or self-contained flats are encouraged to obtain advice from the Department relating to their responsibilities under the Housing Acts.

Preliminary notices were served under Section 15 and 16 of the Act and co-operation with owners of the properties involved has been generally good, although difficulties are being experienced in obtaining agreement concerning means of escape in case of fire.

It is estimated that of the 33 properties known to be in multiple occupation the details regarding separate occupancies are as follows:-

No. of separated occupancies	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No. of houses involved	8	1	5	5	4	-	8	1	1

The Housing Act, 1969 made further provision concerning houses in multiple occupation in that it introduced a new definition of such properties and extended the powers of local authorities to deal with them.

In the report submitted to the Council in November 1971, a Code of Practice was set out for their information so that the requirements of the Department relative to Houses in Multiple Occupation could be understood and publicised. In fact these recommendations had been used by the Department for the past few years.

(m) Prosecutions - None.

4. PUBLIC HEALTH GENERAL

(a) Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

(1) Introduction

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 provides for the Health, welfare and safety of persons employed in these types of premises. Its requirements are very similar to those of the Factories Act and include provisions relating to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, lighting, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, drinking water, seats, safety of machinery, first aid and fire precautions.

This report relates to the work carried out by the Borough Council acting as the Local Authority in offices and shops, where it has enforcement responsibilities. The requirements regarding fire precautions in these premises are dealt with by the Lancashire County Council acting as the Fire Authority. Offices and shops within the curtilage of factories, and railway premises in the vicinity of the permanent way are the responsibility of H.M. Factory Inspectorate.

(2) Registration of Premises

The following table shows the number of registrations made since the Notification of Employment of Persons Order 1964 became operative. This Order requires employers intending to employ persons in premises covered by the Act to register with the appropriate authority. Notifications must be made on the prescribed form O.S.R.1., copies of which may be obtained from the Public Health Department.

Class of Premises	Number of Premises Registered			No. General Inspections made
	1966 to 1971	1972	Total to 31.12.72	
Offices	106	4	110	11
Retail Shops	181	10	191	88
Wholesale Premises and Warehouses	11	-	11	2
Catering Est. and Canteens	14	-	11	19
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-	-
Total	312	14	326	120

The number of premises registered to date totals 326. This figure may seem low in comparison with the number of these types of premises in the town, but it must be stressed that a large proportion of these are wholly family concerns and as such are not registerable under the Act. However the employment of one person who is not a close relative on these premises may bring the whole premises within the scope of the Act.

(3) General Inspections

A total of 120 general inspections were made during the year and many re-inspections following the service of informal notices.

(4) Visits of all kinds

A total of 128 visits of all kinds were made by the inspectors to registered premises during the year. This figure refers only to visits made in connection with the O.S.R.P. Act.

(5) Analysis of persons employed

An analysis of the persons employed in registered premises by the class of workplace is given in the table below:-

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	849
Retail Shops	848
Wholesale Depts., Whrss.	305
Catering Estabs. open to the Public	177
Canteens	-
Fuel Storage Depots	-
Total	2,179
Total Males	1,013
Total Females	1,166

(6) Exemptions

No applications for exemptions from either Section 5(2) (Space), Section 6 (Temperature), Section 9 (Sanitary Conveniences) or Section 10 (Washing Facilities) were made during the year.

(7) Contraventions Found

In the course of the general inspections carried out it was necessary to serve 25 informal notices in respect of contraventions found and a summary of these is given in the table as follows:-

Contraventions Table

Contraventions	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale D & Warehss.	Cat. Estds. & Canteens	Fuel Storage Depots	Total
Cleanliness (Sec. 4)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (Sec. 5)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Temperature (Sec. 6)	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Thermometers	-	2	-	-	-	2
Ventilation (Sec. 7)	-	3	-	-	-	3
Lighting (Sec. 8)	-	5	-	-	-	5
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 9)	-	6	-	-	-	6
Washing Facilities (Sec. 10)	-	3	-	-	-	3
Drinking Water (Sec. 11)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acc. for Clothing (Sec. 12)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sitting Facils. (Sec. 13)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seats for Sed. Wrkrs. (Sec. 14)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eating Facils. (Sec. 15)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Floors, Passages and Stairs (Sec. 16)	-	12	-	-	-	12
Safety of Machinery (Sec. 17)	-	1	-	-	-	1
First Aid (Sec. 25)	-	9	-	-	-	9
Info. for employees (Sec. 50)	-	12	-	-	-	12

(8) Accidents

Four accidents were reported to have occurred on registered premises during the year, two concerning retail shops and two concerning offices. All were caused by falls of persons.

(9) Prosecutions

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

(b) Factories Act 1961

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspection's	Written Notices	Occupier's Prospected.
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	3	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	152	27	2	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers premises)	2	1	-	-
TOTAL	155	31	2	-

2. Cases in which defects are found

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Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec.6.) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient ...	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	7	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outworkers) ...	1	1	-	-	-
TOTAL ...	8	8	-	-	-

(c) Offensive Trades

There is one premises registered for the purpose of carrying on trade classified as "offensive", under the Public Health Act, 1936 namely gut scraping (one). The premises are regularly inspected to ensure that the bye-laws referring to them are complied with.

(d) Movable Dwellings

Under the Chorley Corporation Act, 1926 (Sections 92-3) no tent, caravan, or similar structure is permitted to remain within the Borough, nor is it permitted for any land to be used to provide accommodation for such, without the consent of the Council.

(e) Rodent Control

	Type of Property	
	Non Agricultural	Agricultural
Properties other than Sewers		
1. Number of properties in district	13,510	16
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	527	14
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	185	6
(ii) Mice	342	8
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	192	-
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	155	-
(ii) Mice	37	-

Apart from the enormous amount of damage caused by rodents to food-stuffs other materials, and to the fabric of buildings, they are potential carriers of food poisoning organisms. Most rat infestations originate from rats gaining access to buildings by way of defective drains from the public sewers and to control the rat population in the sewers an annual treatment by laying poison bait in the manholes is carried out.

On the subject of mouse control however, certain difficulties were encountered using warfarin and it has been found necessary to resort to other poisons to ensure adequate treatment. Alphachloralose is now used although in certain situations one of the quick acting poisons such as Zinc Phosphide would be necessary. It is interesting to note that the number of infestations by mice has been increasing over the last few years and indeed continues to do so.

Sewers

No sewer treatment was carried out during the year because of staff and ancillary equipment problems, but no outbreaks were traced to sewers although private drainage on new estates was found to be infested in some areas. This was in general due to bad workmanship.

(f) Disinfestation

Vermin

Infestations of bed bugs or fleas are now a comparatively rare occurrence but it was found necessary to disinfest 6 houses during the year. Modern insecticides have made this work easier and they are extremely effective, re-infestations being almost unknown. When necessary bedding and other suitable material is treated by steam in the Department's own steam disinfector. The major problems concerned cockroaches and in certain parts of the area infestations are quite difficult to control.

Other Pests

The advice of the Department is frequently sought concerning the eradication of many types of insect pests, and in some cases treatment is carried out. It must be realised however, that the Council is statutorily bound to concentrate its efforts on those pests intimately concerned with public health, although the staff are always willing to give advice when other problems are brought to them.

(g) Schools

1.	Chorley All Saints C.E.
2.	" Duke Street County (Junior)
2.	" Duke Street County (Infants')
3.	" Highfield County (Junior & Infants')
4.	" Hollinshead Street Congregational (Infants')
5.	" Parochial (Junior & Infants')
6.	" Sacred Heart R.C. (Junior & Infants')
7.	" St. George's C.E. (Junior & Infants')
8.	" St. James C.E. (Junior & Infants')
9.	" St. Joseph's R.C. (Junior & Infants')
11.	" St. Mary's R.C. (Junior & Infants')
12.	" St. Peter's C.E. (Junior & Infants')
13.	" St. Gregory's R.C. (Junior)
14.	" St. Gregory's R.C. (Infants')
101.	" Southlands High School.
104.	" St. Augustine's R.C. Secondary (Boys')
105.	" St. Alban's High School
107.	" St. Michael's High School
108.	" St. Hilda's R.C. Secondary (Girls')
130.	" Parklands High School, Southport Road
150.	" Highfield Nursery School
151.	" Duke Street Nursery School
200.	" Astley Park School

Progress is still being made with improvement to the older schools. Facilities however, are generally satisfactory.

(h) Sanitary Accommodation

The various types of closets other than water closets in the Borough are as follows:-

Privy Middens	3
Closets attached to above middens	4
Pail Closets	11
Waste Water Closets	184

The privy middens and pail closets are located amongst the farm and outlying properties near the Borough boundary, and none exist where sewers are available. They are mostly emptied by the owners, but the Corporation undertakes the emptying of some privy middens and all the pail closets.

4 waste water closets were converted to water closets during the year.

(i) Drainage

A free service is provided for the clearing of stoppages in drains where simple rodding or plunging is effective, one man being employed practically full-time on this work. A total of 701 stoppages being cleared in the year.

When it is found necessary to excavate and open a drain, a Statutory Notice is served on the owner under the Public Health Act 1961 and if this is not complied with, the work is carried out in default by the local authority sometimes by the Borough Engineers Department and in other cases by private contractors.

(j) Infectious Diseases and Food Poisoning

Whenever necessary routine enquiries were made concerning all notified cases of infectious diseases and food poisoning, and 143 visits were made in this connection.

All of the six reported cases of suspected food poisoning, only one of which was actually notified, were single cases. Further information is contained in the early part of this Report.

(k) Noise

Complaints concerning noise during the year entailed 101 visits being made to investigate the source and secure a reduction. These visits usually take considerable time and many have to be carried out outside normal working hours particularly at night. The problems encountered require thorough investigation by the Department and the firms concerned, so that the most effective way of reducing the noise can be decided without reducing the efficiency of the plant beyond the point where it is economically viable. This is usually difficult to achieve and very often the improvement secured seemed very small to the complainants, who are only satisfied by the complete elimination of the sound. The terms of the Noise Abatement Act 1960 as they affect trade and industry are such as to recognise that all noise cannot be prevented.

Many difficulties arise because noisy plant is carelessly sited within works, or alternatively dwellings are erected adjacent to works where noisy operations are carried out, so much could be done therefore, by careful planning to avoid these problems in the future.

The problems encountered during the year involved those from metal fabrication premises, the manufacture of plastics and laundrettes.

5. MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES

(a) Diseases of Animals Act, 1950

The Department is responsible for the administration of the Act and the various orders made thereunder within the Borough. Any action taken under the various duties imposed is outlined below.

Swine Fever

30 Licences from outside sources checked.

Foot and Mouth Disease

No Licences issued.

Importation of Animals Act

No Licences issued. None from outside sources checked.

Transit of Animals Order

These orders deal with the conveyance of animals to prevent unnecessary suffering. Several minor contraventions were dealt with and rectified by informal action.

Tuberculosis Area Eradication Order 1950

No notices prohibiting movement of bovine animals were received.

Waste Foods Order 1957

This Order prohibits the feeding of unboiled waste foods to certain animals or to poultry and lays down other prohibitions and requirements in order to prevent the spread of foot and mouth and other diseases. Any person having 5 or more weaned pigs, or more than 50 head of poultry, who collects or receives waste foods for them must boil waste foods in plant for which he holds a licence from the local authority. Two licences are in force in the Borough. The importance of these requirements are not fully realised until an outbreak of contagious animal disease occurs.

(b) Shops Act, 1950-65

The enforcement of the provisions of the Act relating to closing hours, Sunday trading, and the employment of young persons, is the responsibility of the Department. The health, safety and welfare of shop employees is now covered by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 which is reported on earlier in this report. Advice was given during the year particularly in relation to hairdressers, retailers of food intended for immediate consumption and Sunday and Bank Holiday trading.

(c) Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

The purpose of this Act is to secure the proper cleanliness of filling materials used in manufacturing bedding, toys, baby carriages and other articles of upholstery.

There are four registered premises where filling materials of the type listed are used in manufacturing articles of upholstery.

(d) Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952

This Act prohibits the sale or letting of unguarded electric fires gas fires or oil heaters.

Most manufacturers now fit guards of an approved type to their appliances so it is unusual to find new articles not properly equipped. Vigilance is still necessary, however, particularly in the case of second-hand dealers, and householders are frequently advised to fit guards to their fires when unguarded ones are noticed during the course of inspections for other purposes.

(e) Pet Animals Act, 1951

This Act provides that no person shall keep a pet shop without a licence, so as to ensure that animals in such shops are kept under suitable conditions and that mammals will not be sold at too early an age. 5 Licences are now in force.

(f) Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

There were four persons on the register at the end of the year.

6. PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) Refuse Collection

(1) Vehicles

The following diesel-engined vehicles comprised the fleet engaged in Refuse Collection at the end of the year.

Two Shelvoke and Drewry 15 cu. yd. Fore and Aft Tipping Vehicles (1970)

Four Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic 20, rear loading compression vehicles (1969, 1967, 1971, 1972).

One Bedford 12 cu. yd. dual tip (1967) (Civic Amenities work)

The vehicle fleet has now been standardised on the provision of small wheelbase refuse collection vehicles all capable of negotiating the wide range of narrow passages at the rear of many properties in the town, and it is unlikely that any major changes in vehicle size will be undertaken until after 1974, when it would be advantageous to take three small vehicles out and replace them by two larger machines for general estate work. However, as the re-organisation of local government areas will occur in April 1974, the general re-utilization of vehicles will be an important factor in a future comprehensive work-studied programme for the service as a whole. However, spare vehicle capacity will be essential.

During the year the submission of refuse collection vehicles for plating and testing commenced and two vehicles in the fleet were submitted for this purpose. All the fleet has to be done before September 1973 and thenceforward at yearly intervals. These procedures increase considerably vehicle running costs and this was evident in the estimates and will continue to be a major factor to ensure a proper planned programme of preventive maintenance.

(2) Labour

The establishment provides for 28 men including drivers to be employed on refuse collection.

4 teams of one driver and four collectors	20
1 team of one driver and two collectors	3
1 team of one driver/loader and one collector	2
1 team of one driver/loader and two collectors	3
(spare)	

I have been fortunate in our drivers passing the Heavy Goods Vehicle Driving Test when all the appropriate training for them has been done within the Department. However, I can foresee a problem in being able to retain drivers in this service having regard to financial benefits obtainable in other fields so it is necessary to keep the whole problem under constant review. The policy of the Department is to train and promote where possible.

It will be seen from the table at the end of this report that the degree of absenteeism due to sickness and casual absence fell from 6.3% in 1971 to 5.0% in 1972, which is almost as low as the 1968 figure which was very satisfactory. It is essential however, to employ two temporary employees during the summer period because of increased holiday entitlement for the established staff.

As the service of refuse collection in any town is important and one which is under daily scrutiny by the ratepayers it must be of the highest calibre. The number of premises to be served in Chorley is increasing steadily accompanied by the factor relating to the length of carry. For example to replace a block of old terraced houses by the same number of detached or semi-detached properties increases the time involved on collection and therefore the effort involved to maintain the service.

The fact that domestic refuse collection does not take place during the two holiday weeks e.g. July and September has resulted in few complaints, but to assist householders who have storage problems arrangements were made during the year whereby those with a problem could obtain from the department a refuse sack free of charge.

(3) Bonus Scheme

I am pleased to report that the bonus scheme introduced in April 1966 operated successfully during the year and achieved its main objects, the incentive to increased efficiency and quality of service. A weekly collection has been maintained since its introduction and the quick return to normal after holidays has been very satisfactory. It is essential however, to bring the scheme up to date and it is anticipated that a work study based scheme will be introduced during the next year. Meanwhile some problems are expected.

The estimated number of dustbins or their equivalent emptied weekly at the end of the year was 14,459.

(b) Storage of Refuse

The system whereby the owner or occupier of any dwelling-house and certain business premises can be required to provide a suitable dustbin, under the Chorley Corporation Act, 1926, continued to work well although it does not ensure that premises have a bin of standard size. The Report on Refuse Collection recommended that a Municipal Bin Provision Scheme is the most advantageous from all points of view. However with the changing character of refuse the $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. bin will have to give way to a bin of larger capacity e.g. $3\frac{1}{4}$ cu. ft. in the near future, and to enable a further increase in efficiency these larger bins will have to be of lighter weight e.g. plastic.

During the year eight preliminary notices were served on persons responsible to provide dustbins, all being complied with.

Galvanised Dustbins to BSS 792/1947 $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. capacity with noiseless Rubbertex lids are purchased for re-sale to the public and with reasonable use should have an average life of 10 years. A quantity of $3\frac{1}{4}$ cu. ft. capacity Plastic bins were obtained also with a hope that they could be used in dwellings centrally heated by electricity, gas or oil. With proper care however, these bins can be used generally and many authorities doing this have a very small replacement incidence. On looking to the future I consider that they are likely to become standard.

During the year the following bins were sold:-

B.S.S. Rubbertex Lids	439
Brockhouse type $3\frac{1}{4}$ cu. ft.....	75

(c) Refuse Disposal and Salvage

All refuse is disposed of by semi-controlled tipping at Lower Burgh Tip where the salvage depot is also situated. Four men are engaged in this work as follows:-

- 1 Tractor Driver
- 1 Tip Man
- 1 Paper Salvage Baler
- 1 Watchman.

An International B.100 Loader was employed during the whole of the year.

During the year the house refuse from Adlington U.D.C. was also disposed of at Lower Burgh.

Industrial and commercial concerns may take advantage of the facilities offered at the tip between the hours of 7 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, and because a charge must be made, the present position is 25p per ton or minimum load to Borough ratepayers. People who use the tip regularly or frequently may enter into a quarterly contract payable in advance. Where persons outside the Borough wish to use the tip however, the material to be disposed of is carefully vetted and a more economic charge is made.

The income from the sale of waste paper during 1972 was below the forecast level and was the only commodity salvaged by the Department. The sale of this material secured a gross income of £1,770.47 out of which £220.70 was distributed in the form of an incentive bonus amongst the collection and disposal staff. The price for mixed paper was £10.25 per ton until October then the price increased to £10.75.

In Chorley it has been noted that in recent years the larger firms and supermarkets have installed baling machines and are deriving their own benefit from the sale of waste paper and cardboard. This has reduced our potential and thus thrown the department back on that produced principally by small businesses and householders. The sales were in fact hit by a general recession in the trade so it was not possible to stimulate collections.

The salvage of paper and cardboard however, does relieve expensive tipping space and contributes to a reduction in fire hazards.

(d) Civic Amenities Act 1967 (Part III)

This part of the Act received much publicity but one wonders if those to whom it was particularly directed had ever heard of its provisions.

A statutory duty was placed on local authorities to provide a place where local residents could dispose of refuse at all times free of charge. Power was given to us to deal with abandoned motor vehicles and other refuse including "things". It also increased the penalties for persons found guilty of dumping with the intention of abandonment. It was also to be noted that the Act applied to any land in the open air which is certainly supplementary to the restricted provisions of the Litter Act and the Public Health Act 1961. Unfortunately the Act did not provide for local authority expenditure in removing refuse etc., from occupied land to be recovered from the occupiers for I think that in many cases this would have stirred these occupiers into taking some form of action to prevent their land becoming an authorised tip.

I am pleased to report that the arrangements made in Chorley for local residents to deposit refuse, namely on a piece of land adjacent to the entrance of our Lower Burgh Tip, has been well used but difficulties are still being caused by people dumping refuse on various open spaces in the Borough. During the year considerable attention was given to the tidying up of various sites and the spare refuse collection vehicle was used whenever possible on this work.

There were 944 requests from householders to remove bulky items and other refuse during the year and these were dealt with by the Department whenever transport and labour was available. The arrangements for the collection of unwanted articles from dwellings has vastly improved and in general no charge is made. Charges will be made however, for the removal of accumulations on which significant time has to be spent and in every case where the refuse is of commercial or industrial origin.

Abandoned Motor Vehicles

The new law dealing with abandoned motor vehicles has proved reasonably straight forward to use, and although there are times when informal action is taken, it is essential that the provisions of the Act are always used where difficulties could be encountered. It is the practice of the department that such vehicles are photographed for record purposes before being dealt with.

The place of safe custody for vehicles awaiting enquiries as to ownership etc. is situated in the Town's Yard, Back Street, and arrangements for disposal are through the offices of a local car breaker.

The following table shows the action taken during 1972 concerning abandoned vehicles:-

ABANDONED VEHICLES

No. remaining at end of year 1971	10		
(1) No. found during year		12	24
(2) No. dealt with informally		-	
(3) No. otherwise removed		13	25
(4) No. dealt with under the Act		11	
(a) Wrecks		2	
(b) Runners			
(5) Disposal of (a) and (b)			
(i) No. removed after action comm.	6		
(ii) No. re-claimed	-		
(iii) No. disposed of	5		
(iv) No. awaiting disposal	2		
(6) No. remaining at end of year (1972)			9
(7) No. of private enquiries re disposal of vehicles		4	

(e) Deposit of Poisonous Wastes Act, 1972

The deposit of poisonous, toxic and certain types of industrial waste is not permitted at Lower Burgh having regard to planning conditions and problems associated with surface water etc. run off.

However if any person wishes to move any poisonous or toxic waste to which the Act applies from premises within the Borough an appropriate notice has to be sent to the local authority in whose area the material is to be tipped, the River Authority of that area and a copy to this Department.

One such notification was received during the year.

(f) Protective Clothing and Welfare

All employees are issued with overalls and in April 1961 a laundering service for them was commenced, so that the men could hand in a dirty pair of overalls at the end of each week and collect a clean pair. Despite the obvious advantages of this system to the men the majority have continued to have their own overalls washed at home. Few make regular use of the laundering service.

In addition to overalls and waterproof clothing, gloves and goggles are issued to refuse collectors if requested and rubber boots and donkey jackets are issued to men employed on the tip.

All men engaged on refuse collection are allowed free use of the slipper bath facilities at the Public Baths. Few however take advantage of this due to the changing housing circumstances of most of them.

(g) Street Cleansing

The Borough Engineer is responsible for the cleansing of streets and snow clearance.

(h) Public Conveniences

There were 8 public conveniences under the control of the Department. They were cleansed and maintained by a staff of 2 male (full-time), 1 male (part-time) and 1 female (full-time), and 2 females (part-time). Other conveniences provided at Astley Hall and the Recreation Grounds are under the supervision of the Parks Department. The insufficiency of public conveniences throughout the Borough is noticeable, but certain improvements to existing conveniences are carried out from time to time but it is difficult to provide a good image with old and unsatisfactorily sited buildings. The market conveniences, however are well equipped, with wash and brush-up and free hand washing facilities and the premises in general are well used.

(j) Refuse Collection & Disposal

Monthly Statistics of Time Lost Due to Sickness, Accidents and Casual Absence

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
No. of Working Days in Month	20	21	22	19	22	22	21	23	21	22	22	19
Poss. No. Man/days per Month	640	672	681	589	682	696	714	782	699	704	699	608
Average strength of section	32.0	32.0	31.4	31.0	31.0	31.6	34.0	34.0	33.3	32.0	31.8	32.0
(a) Sickness/Accident	22	34	37	25	25	32	11	44	13	37	58	42
(b) Casual Absence	7	1	2	7	7	6	1	5	6	5	9	3
Percentage Loss due to												
(a) Sickness/Accident	3.4	5.1	5.2	4.2	0.1	4.6	1.5	5.6	1.8	5.2	8.3	6.9
(b) Casual Absence	1.1	0.1	0.3	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.1	0.6	0.9	0.7	1.3	0.5
Percentage Total	4.5	5.2	5.5	5.4	1.1	5.5	1.6	6.2	2.7	5.9	9.6	7.4
Average Strength of Section	32.2	Average Monthly Loss %							
Established Strength	32.0	(a) Sickness/Accident	4.3
					(b) Casual Absence	0.7
					Total	5.0

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Average Monthly Loss %					
(a) Sickness/Accident	3.4	7.2	9.1	5.1	4.3
(b) Casual Absence	1.4	2.1	2.0	1.2	0.7
Total (a) + (b)	4.8	9.3	11.1	6.3	5.0
Established Strength	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.0
Average Strength of Section	31.6	31.9	32.7	32.2	32.2

Refuse Collection & Disposal

Financial Statistics

By Courtesy of the Borough Treasurer

	1968/9	1969/70	1970/71	1971/72
<u>Refuse Collection</u>				
No. Premises	11,983	12,190	12,280	12,360
Cost per 1,000 Premises	£2,505	£2,657	£2,998	£3,480
Cost 1,000 Population	£ 965	£1,041	£1,196	£1,367
<u>Refuse Disposal</u>				
Cost per 1,000 Premises	£ 428	£ 488	£ 494	£ 537
Cost per 1,000 Population	£ 165	£ 191	£ 197	£ 211
<u>Salvage of Paper</u>				
Tonnage Sold	249	216	199	177
Cost per ton sold	£8.13s	£8.19s	£11.14s	£14.30
Income per ton sold	£8. 3s	£8.16s	£10.16s	£ 8.65

